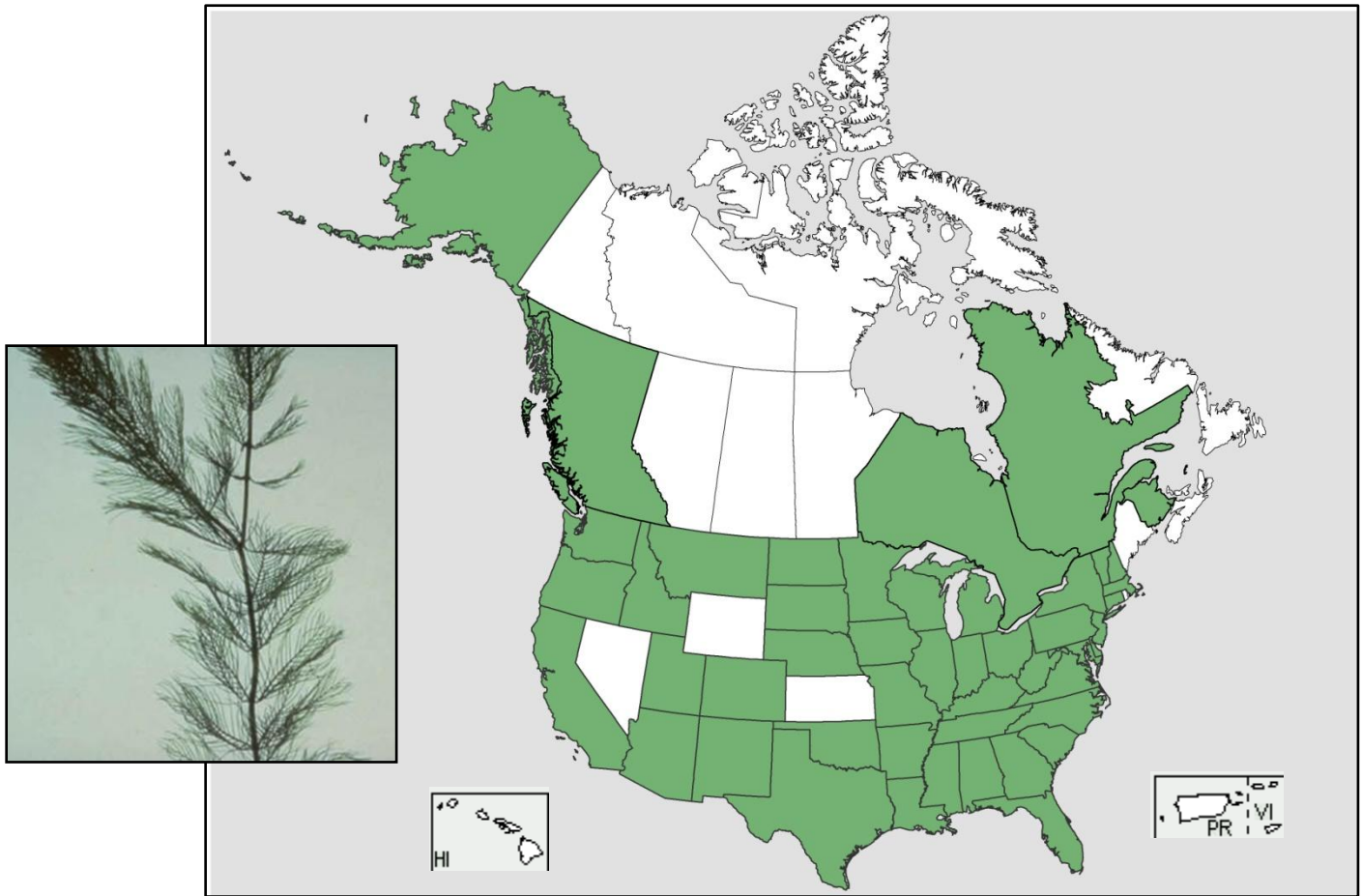


# Eurasian Watermilfoil



Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) is native to Europe, Asia, and northern Africa and may have been intentionally introduced into the United States with the aquarium trade. It was first documented in Washington D.C. in 1942, and now occurs in 45 states and Canada. It is an aggressive plant, displacing native plants leading to reduced diversity. Dense beds form canopies and reduce light penetration, invertebrate abundance, and the ability of fish to forage for food. In addition, it degrades water quality and lowers oxygen levels. Dense beds can also hamper recreation by restricting swimming, fishing, and boating. Eurasian watermilfoil has not been documented in any Wyoming waters to date.

Eurasian watermilfoil is spread on trailered watercraft and fragments can spread naturally downstream; one stem or leaf fragment can start a new population.

If you are using Eurasian watermilfoil infested waters in another state, please remember to:

- ✓ **DRAIN** all water from your gear and equipment. This includes all types of watercraft, waders, boots, clothing, buckets – anything that comes into contact with the water.
- ✓ **CLEAN** all equipment and gear of plants, mud and debris. *Never move a plant or animal from one location to another.*
- ✓ **DRY** everything thoroughly. In Wyoming we recommend drying for 5 days in the summer, 18 days in the spring or fall, or 3 days at freezing temperatures.